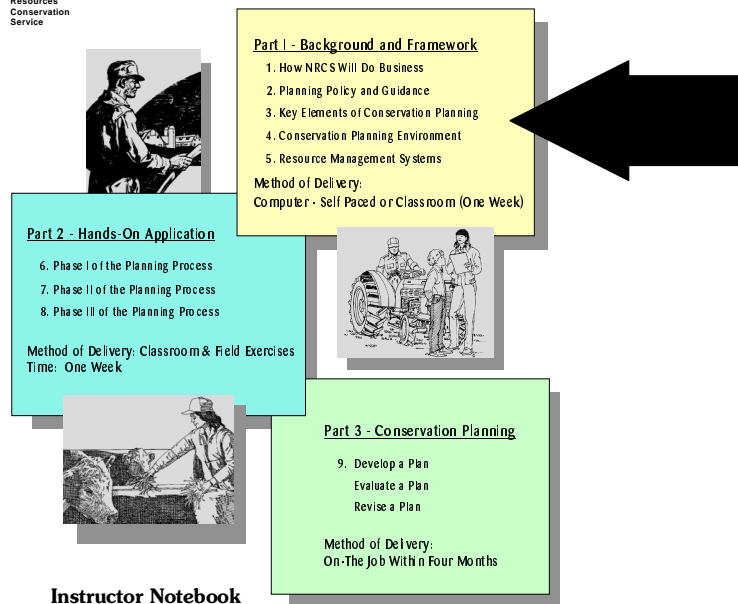


Setting for Part 1



Conservation Planning Course



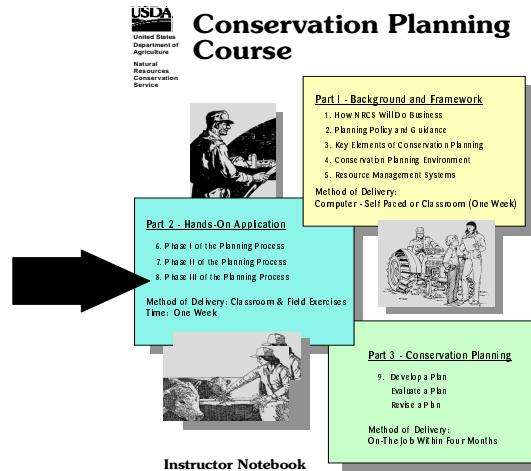
Background and Framework

Part I covers the background and framework of how NRCS will do business in conservation planning in conjunction with the client and the conservation partnership.

Part 1 is not intended to be the application portion of the course. The application portion is Parts 2 and 3.

Participants need to complete Part 1 before proceeding to Part 2. They need to come to Part 2 prepared to go to the field.

Setting for Part 2



Hands-On Application—Actual Farms or Ranches

Part 2 is the hands-on portion of the course. Participants will work in groups to complete all three phases of the planning process on actual farms or ranches.

Participants need to come to Part 2 of the course with the background knowledge gained in Part 1 and be prepared to apply that knowledge.

NOTE:

1. If Part 1 is taught on the computer, then the following material from Module 1 should be included at the beginning of Part 2: Welcome and Introductions; State Conservationist's Comments; Introductions (self introductions); Overview of the Course; and Pre-Course Test.
2. Also it would be very beneficial to provide a time, before getting into Module 6, for the participants to raise questions or comments about the material they covered in Part 1 on the computer. States could also highlight or expand on any items in Part 1 that they feel are necessary.
3. States also need to decide to what extent they should review and expand on Module 5 in the classroom. The decision should be based on the knowledge and experience of their employees in using the Resource Management System (RMS) process. Module 5 basically covers only an introduction and overview of the RMS process.

Setting for Part 3



Conservation Planning Course



Part I - Background and Framework

1. How NRCS Will Do Business
2. Planning Policy and Guidance
3. Key Elements of Conservation Planning
4. Conservation Planning Environment
5. Resource Management Systems

Method of Delivery:
Computer - Self Paced or Classroom (One Week)

Part 2 - Hands-On Application

6. Phase I of the Planning Process
7. Phase II of the Planning Process
8. Phase III of the Planning Process

Method of Delivery: Classroom & Field Exercises
Time: One Week



Part 3 - Conservation Planning

9. Develop a Plan
- Evaluate a Plan
- Revise a Plan

Method of Delivery:
On-The Job Within Four Months

Instructor Notebook

Conservation Planning—On-the-Job Application

Part 3 allows the participants to continue the learning process by applying the training at their work location. They must demonstrate their ability to develop a plan, evaluate a plan, and revise a plan. The teaching / learning process takes place in real-life situations.

Setting for Module 5

Module 5 covers an introduction and overview of the Resource Management System (RMS) process that is embedded in the NRCS three-phase, nine-step planning process. This material is presented here, as a separate module, ahead of the field exercise in Part 2 of the course, in order to have a review, or a more in-depth discussion, of the RMS process before going to the field.

The RMS process is a thought process with the primary purpose being to develop sound conservation alternatives with the client. The process can also be used to develop guidance documents included in Section III of the Field Office Technical Guide. Conservation planners can then use the guidance documents to begin development of conservation alternatives.

Depending on the knowledge and experience of their employees, states need to decide if additional materials beyond this module need to be covered.
